

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



December 2, 2005

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO: I-77-05

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY CAPI PROGRAM MANAGERS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- ☐ State Law Change
- ☐ Federal Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Court Order
- ☒ Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- ☐ Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: JANUARY 2006 COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS THAT AFFECT THE
CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR IMMIGRANTS

REFERENCE: ACINs I-81-04 and I-68-06

This All-County Information Notice (ACIN) provides the new Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) Payment Standards, effective January 1, 2006, and April 1, 2006, and clarification for computing benefits for a CAPI recipient whose spouse receives Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP). The attached CAPI Payment Standards charts detail the payment standards that will be effective on January 1, 2006, and on April 1, 2006.

As required by Section 18941 of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC), the CAPI payment standards are based on the SSI/SSP payment standards, minus \$10.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a couple. Under the provisions of Senate Bill (SB) 68 (Chapter 78, Statutes of 2005), the State SSP Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) is suspended for all of 2006, and the pass-through of the federal SSI COLA is delayed from January 1, 2006, until April 1, 2006. Consequently, there will be no increase for most of the SSI/SSP or CAPI payment standards in January 2006. The one exception is the Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC) rate, which will increase by the amount of the SSI COLA because it was exempted from the delayed COLA pass-through provisions of SB 68. The CAPI Payment Standards that will become effective on January 1, 2006, and April 1, 2006, are the results of the federal COLA for SSI and SB 68, which are reflected on the attached charts.

The separate federal SSI COLA also affects the following values for the entire calendar year, and can impact CAPI eligibility and benefit amounts effective on January 1, 2006:

PRESUMED MAXIMUM VALUE (PMV) OF IN-KIND SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE

- To compute this value, take 1/3 of the federal SSI amount and add \$20.00. This changes the PMV from \$213.00 to \$221.00 for an individual and from \$309.66 to \$321.33 for a couple.

ALLOWANCE FOR INELIGIBLE CHILDREN IN DEEMING SITUATIONS

- To compute this allowance, determine the difference between the federal SSI benefit amount for a couple and the federal SSI benefit amount for an individual. This computation changes the allowance from \$290.00 to \$301.00.
- This allowance is entered, when appropriate, on the Income Eligibility Worksheet (SOC 452), line B.2.a, when determining a CAPI benefit amount for a case involving deemed income from an ineligible spouse. It is also used on the Income Eligibility Worksheet-Child (SOC 452A), line A.4.a, when determining a CAPI benefit involving deemed income from ineligible parent(s).

SPONSOR'S ALLOCATION IN ALIEN DEEMING SITUATIONS

- This allocation equals the federal SSI rate for an individual. The federal SSI COLA changes the allocation from \$579.00 to \$603.00.
- This allowance is entered, when appropriate, on the Sponsor to Alien Deeming Worksheet (SOC 454), line 2, when determining a CAPI benefit amount for a case involving deemed income from a sponsor.

COLA COORDINATION WHEN ONE SPOUSE RECEIVES SSI/SSP

As stated above, WIC Section 18941 requires CAPI benefits to be equivalent to SSI/SSP benefits except that the CAPI payment standards must be \$10.00 less for an individual and \$20.00 less for a couple. A unique situation arises when one member of a couple receives SSI/SSP and the other receives CAPI. All-County Letter No. 99-13 addressed this situation by requiring counties to count the SSI/SSP benefits received by one member as income while using a special payment standard that is \$10.00 less than the SSI/SSP payment standard for a couple. The intended result of this policy is that the CAPI/SSI/SSP couple receives combined benefits that total \$10.00 less than the SSI/SSP benefit rate for a couple as required by WIC Section 18941.

However, the intended result will NOT occur for a CAPI/SSI/SSP couple if normal retrospective budgeting of the spouse's SSI/SSP benefit is used to determine CAPI payment in the effective month of a COLA and the subsequent month. Using a January COLA for example, under normal retrospective counting rules the CAPI recipient's January and February payments would be computed using the spouse's SSI/SSP benefit from November and December respectively – before the SSI/SSP COLA in January – resulting in the CAPI/SSI/SSP couple receiving higher combined benefits in January and February than either the SSI/SSP or CAPI couple.

In order to comply with WIC Section 18941, counties are hereby instructed, for CAPI/SSI/SSP couples, to prospectively budget the spouse's SSI/SSP benefit in the month that a COLA occurs and the subsequent month. Using a January COLA for example, the CAPI recipient's January payment should be computed using the spouse's SSI/SSP January payment, and the CAPI recipient's February payment should be computed using the spouse's SSI/SSP February payment.

Using January 2005 as an example, the difference between retrospective and prospective budgeting is illustrated in the following table:

	Retrospective Budget	Prospective Budget
01/05 CAPI/SSI Couple rate	\$1,412	\$1,412
Spouse's SSI/SSP used in budget calculation	- 790 (11/04)	- 805 (01/05)
01/05 CAPI payment	\$ 622	\$ 607
Total income actually received by couple in 01/05	\$1,427	\$1,412
<i>The total payment of \$1,427 received in this example under retrospective budgeting would exceed both the SSI/SSP couple rate of \$1,422 and the CAPI/SSI couple payment rate of \$1,412.</i>		

In 2006, because the SSI COLA is effectively delayed until April 1, 2006, for most cases (except NMOHC), this policy should be followed for the months of April and May for the non-NMOHC cases.

Any questions regarding these adjustments should be directed to the Adult Programs Branch, Operations and Technical Assistance Unit at (916) 229-4000.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH M. CARLIN
Acting Deputy Director
Disability and Adult Programs Division

Attachment

c: CWDA

CAPI PAYMENT STANDARDS
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2006
BASED ON JANUARY 2006 SSI/SSP STANDARDS

	INDEPENDENT LIVING			REDUCED NEEDS			NON-MEDICAL OUT-OF-HOME CARE (NMOHC)					
	RESIDING IN OWN HOUSEHOLD			HOUSEHOLD OF ANOTHER WITH IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD			HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE WITH IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD AND CERTIFIED NMOHC			IN LICENSED FACILITY OR HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE WITHOUT IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD		
	TOTAL CAPI		TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI		TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI		TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI		TOTAL SSI/SSP
INDIVIDUAL:												
AGED OR DISABLED	802.00		812.00	610.00		620.00	799.00		809.00	1,005.00		1,015.00
- without cooking facilities (RMA) 1/	886.00		896.00	N/A		N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A		N/A
BLIND	867.00		877.00	691.00		701.00	799.00		809.00	1,005.00		1,015.00
DISABLED MINOR												
- living with parent(s)	688.00		698.00	484.00		494.00						
- living with non-parent relative or non-relative guardian	688.00		698.00	484.00		494.00	799.00		809.00	1,005.00		1,015.00
COUPLE:	BOTH CAPI	ONE CAPI, ONE SSI	BOTH SSI/SSP	BOTH CAPI	ONE CAPI, ONE SSI	BOTH SSI/SSP	BOTH CAPI	ONE CAPI, ONE SSI	BOTH SSI/SSP	BOTH CAPI	ONE CAPI, ONE SSI	BOTH SSI/SSP
AGED OR DISABLED												
- per couple	1,417.00	1,427.00	1,437.00	1,155.00	1,165.00	1,175.00	1,628.33	1,638.33	1,648.33	2,010.00	2,020.00	2,030.00
- without cooking facilities (RMA) 1/	1,585.00	1,595.00	1,605.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BLIND												
- per couple	1,644.00	1,654.00	1,664.00	1,382.00	1,392.00	1,402.00	1,628.33	1,638.33	1,648.33	2,010.00	2,020.00	2,030.00
BLIND/AGED OR DISABLED												
- per couple	1,559.00	1,569.00	1,579.00	1,296.00	1,306.00	1,316.00	1,628.33	1,638.33	1,648.33	2,010.00	2,020.00	2,030.00

TITLE XIX MEDICAL FACILITY

	Individual	Couple
Total CAPI	\$40	\$80
SSI/SSP	50	100

1/ RMA - Restaurant Meals Allowance - \$84 Individual; \$168 Couple

ESTIMATED CAPI PAYMENT STANDARDS
EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2006
BASED ON APRIL 2006 SSI/SSP STANDARDS

	INDEPENDENT LIVING			REDUCED NEEDS			NON-MEDICAL OUT-OF-HOME CARE (NMOHC)					
	RESIDING IN OWN HOUSEHOLD			HOUSEHOLD OF ANOTHER WITH IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD			HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE WITH IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD AND CERTIFIED NMOHC			IN LICENSED FACILITY OR HOUSEHOLD OF RELATIVE WITHOUT IN-KIND ROOM & BOARD		
	TOTAL CAPI		TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI		TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI		TOTAL SSI/SSP	TOTAL CAPI		TOTAL SSI/SSP
INDIVIDUAL:												
AGED OR DISABLED	826.00		836.00	626.00		636.00	799.00		809.00	1,005.00		1,015.00
- without cooking facilities (RMA) 1/	910.00		920.00	N/A		N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A		N/A
BLIND	891.00		901.00	707.00		717.00	799.00		809.00	1,005.00		1,015.00
DISABLED MINOR												
- living with parent(s)	712.00		722.00	500.00		510.00						
- living with non-parent relative or non-relative guardian	712.00		722.00	500.00		510.00	799.00		809.00	1,005.00		1,015.00
COUPLE:	BOTH CAPI	ONE CAPI, ONE SSI	BOTH SSI/SSP	BOTH CAPI	ONE CAPI, ONE SSI	BOTH SSI/SSP	BOTH CAPI	ONE CAPI, ONE SSI	BOTH SSI/SSP	BOTH CAPI	ONE CAPI, ONE SSI	BOTH SSI/SSP
AGED OR DISABLED												
- per couple	1,452.00	1,462.00	1,472.00	1,178.33	1,188.33	1,198.33	1,628.33	1,638.33	1,648.33	2,010.00	2,020.00	2,030.00
- without cooking facilities (RMA) 1/	1,620.00	1,630.00	1,640.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BLIND												
- per couple	1,679.00	1,689.00	1,699.00	1,405.33	1,415.33	1,425.33	1,628.33	1,638.33	1,648.33	2,010.00	2,020.00	2,030.00
BLIND/AGED OR DISABLED												
- per couple	1,594.00	1,604.00	1,614.00	1,319.33	1,329.33	1,339.33	1,628.33	1,638.33	1,648.33	2,010.00	2,020.00	2,030.00

TITLE XIX MEDICAL FACILITY

	Individual	Couple
Total CAPI	\$40	\$80
SSI/SSP	50	100

1/ RMA - Restaurant Meals Allowance - \$84 Individual; \$168 Couple